

Germantown School District

GERMANTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
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Dear Parents and Guardians:

As we enter the new school year and the new traditional influenza season, we expect Wisconsin to continue seeing cases of the new pandemic flu. School and public health officials are working jointly to ensure that the most recent information regarding the H1N1 virus and available vaccines are provided. In the face of the H1N1 situation, we seek your assistance in taking simple steps to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for our students.

The most important thing you can do is to keep your child home if he or she is ill. If your child is so sick that you would normally seek medical care, please do so. Each morning, parents and caregivers should check their children and other family members for flu symptoms such as fever, cough or sore throat.

All sick students should stay out of school until they are symptom free for 24 hours – without the use of medication. Please make arrangements now for assist with at home childcare if your child should become ill. Children who are ill upon arrival at school or become ill during the school day will be sent home. Also, when calling school for notification of your child's illness, please include their symptoms and whether they have been seen by a doctor. Notify the school on any confirmed cases of the flu.

At this time, health and school officials are not recommending school closures for individual cases of H1N1 flu. However, as with any illness, we might recommend closing schools if large numbers of students or faculty become ill. As always the school district will continue to ensure that the classrooms and surrounding environments are cleaned regularly.

In addition to staying home when sick, here are some important things you and your family can do to help stay healthy and keep others safe:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw tissues in the trash after use.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective if water is not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Update immunizations

More information about the H1N1 flu and vaccine is available on the following websites:

<http://www.pandemic.wisconsin.gov>

<http://www.co.washington.wi.us>

Thank you for your time and assistance. We are eager for the new school year and we continue our commitment for safe and healthy classrooms.

Sincerely,



Ann Goebel
Director of Pupil Services



Cynthia Dieringer, RN
District School Nurse